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by wives and mothers, or women less exalted in dignity and with less weighty responsibilities, meeting and organizing, and canvassing and caucusing, and practising all the petty tricks of the ward politician, including the reckless abuse of the other side, we leave it for nobler women to say. There are some things that reasoning about is superfluous. There are influences deeper than argument can reach. There are instincts that tell a woman as by the voice of God, that some things befit her sex and some dishonour it. Every woman whose heart is pure knows and feels that public life, the active sharing in elections is repugnant to her, that the refined modesty of her sex is endangered by such strife, that indeed she steps down from her throne as a home queen, and blunts her sensibilities as a woman by engaging in work which few men engage in without serious damage to their higher nature. As we write a poor mad woman is being hurried to jail for murdering her infant. Had those women who are holding caucuses been around doing christian work amongst their sick sisters, this crime would not have been committed. There is a grand sphere for any unoccupied woman in acting a womanly part amongst her own sex, if she did that duty there would be no time left for politics!

PASSOVER WINE.

THOSE who assert that the wine used at the Passover was, and is yet the unfermented juice of the grape, display an audacity in affirming what is known to all Christian scholars and all Jewish authorities to be false, which is amazing and scandalous. There is now no question that there exists a school of anti-nomians amongst the religious bodies, consisting of men and women who have pushed the doctrine of salvation by faith only to this point, that they regard themselves utterly free from the obligation to speak the truth. They have made one virtue, abstinence, to be the whole duty of man, the advocacy of which excuses and justifies falsehood. One writer for instance has recently quoted a certain physician as having abandoned stimulants in his practice, a pure invention, as we have seen recent proofs that he, like St. Paul did, has recommended patients to take wine for health's sake. Again a writer has gravely stated that the wine usually used at Holy Communion is flavored by dead rats! Such a belief would justify his being shut up as insane, if he does believe it. Mrs. Youmans a few days ago declared with all that sublime confidence which extreme ignorance inspires, that the wine used by Jesus at the Passover and at Cana was merely grape juice, that is not wine at all. Prohibitionists are making a dead set against the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, on the ground that those who go to Christ by His own ordinance will be made drunkards by following the example and obeying the command of their Saviour! When such an infamous conspiracy is afoot against the Church, for the vast mass of these people are avowed enemies of the Church of England, and seem

to glory in bringing the Sacrament into shame, it is time to speak plainly in the interests of truth and of the faith. It is most deplorable that any one of our clergy or laymen should countenance these foes of the Church. We denounce as disgraceful the common habit of a certain class of ministers talking to the public as though they were classical scholars, when they well know that although D.D.'s, they are mere sciolists. We could name such men who could not hold a New Testament rightway up, save by accident, who recently have given their judgment on the wine question, pretending to be familiar with Greek and Hebrew!

We give then for the sake of some who have been grossly deceived, the following quotations from the *Presbyterian Review*, for January, 1882. These formed part of an article in the *Church Review* for July, 1885, which demonstrates beyond cavil that wine in ancient times as now was a fermented beverage, and the writer proves with utmost mathematical certainty, that there is not a shadow of a trace in Scripture, or the Talmud, or the Classics, of any wine that was not fermented. Dr. Moore, who wrote the article in the *Presbyterian Review*, made extensive enquiries amongst the learned Jews with the following result:

Dr. Delitzsch, of Leipzig, a Hebrew scholar of world-wide reputation, writes: "The wine of the Passover has at all times been fermented wine mixed with water."

Professor Pota, of Vienna, an Israelite by birth and competent in every respect as a witness, writes: "The question of the lawfulness of fermented wine at Easter has never been started by a Jewish doctor. No strict Jew drinks any other than wine at the Passover. Among thousands of bottles of Passover wine sold at Vienna every year, there has never been one of unfermented juice."

The Rev. D. Edward, of Breslau, another competent scholar, writes: "In all my intercourse with Jews for forty years, and all my acquaintance with their literature, I have never met an allusion to any such practice as the use of unfermented wine at their feasts."

The Rabbis of the Jewish Theological School of Breslau, who are regarded as the most learned Jews in Germany, wrote: "Unfermented wine (must) is not regarded as wine, and would not suffice for the fulfilment of the duty to drink wine on the Passover eve."

The Rev. J. H. Bruehl, superintendent of the Jewish Institution, London, writes: "So far as can be seen from the Talmud the Jews of our Saviour's time had no hesitation whatever about fermented wine at the Passover. Not vinous, but farinaceous fermentation was prohibited. I do not know of any unfermented, real wine."

Dr. Isaac M. Wise, of Cincinnati, editor of the *American Israelite*, states: "In all Jewish ceremonies, as the feast of the Passover, wine-fermented wine and not 'must' has been, as it is still, in use."

Dr. Gottheil, Rabbi of Emmanuel Temple New York, writes: "It is proper to use fermented wine at the Passover. The law treats invariably of wine in the ordinary sense of the word, and that it is supposed to possess the intoxicating property is clear from the precept that the celebrants at the Passover are forbidden to drink of the wine between subscribed cups at certain portions of the ritual lest their minds get clouded. Paschal wine is fermented grape juice. Have had ample opportunities of observing the custom of my brethren in many lands, yet I never heard it so much as questioned that fermented wines are lawful for use. The Rabbis had no fear of the use of the cup under religious sanctions would turn the faithful into drunkards, and experience has proved that they were not mistaken." What a rebuke this is to those who blasphemously declare that the Sacrament of the Body and Blood of Christ leads its participants into sin!

The following statement appears in the *Church Review* for April, 1885: "We the undersigned missionaries and residents in Syria, having been repeatedly requested to make a distinct statement on the subject, hereby declare that during the whole time of our residence and travelling in Syria and the Holy Land, we have never seen or heard of an unfermented wine, nor have found among Jews, Christians, or Mahomedans, any tradition of such a wine having existed in the country.—Rev. W. M. Thomson, D.D., Rev. S. H. Calhoun, Rev. H. H. Jessup, Rev. John Wortabet, D.D., James Black, Esq., Michael Meshaka, Doctor, Rev. John Crawford, R. W. Brigstocke, M.D., F.R.C.S., Rev. W. Wright, B.A. To this let us add the emphatic statement made a short time ago by Prof. Goldwin Smith, a statement copied in almost every newspaper in Canada, to the effect that all the references in the Bible to wine were to a fermented liquid. Prof. Smith is acknowledged to be one of the most eminent of living scholars. After such an array of witnesses it is revolting to hear the fabrications of a certain class of professional advocates of temperance and prohibition. To live by propagating falsehood, as these men and women do, is one of the most contemptible occupations to which a human being can sink. It is not wise to carry an argument beyond demonstration."

The doom of the drunkard is declared with terrible plainness. But there are others against whom the Word of God fulminates threatnings of eternal wrath. Let, then, those who in their zeal for total abstinence forget the sacredness of truth beware, God will not be mocked and His declaration touching such as make and delight in lies may be read in chapter twenty-one, verse eight, of Revelations.

Robertson said, "There are three things in this world which deserve no quarter—hypocrisy, pharisaism and tyranny." Prohibition combines all three, but its worst features are contempt for the truth, and blasphemous attacks upon Holy Communion.